

## LEIGH CREEK GUZZLERS ASSOCIATION

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### GUZZLETTER NO 105

*Dear GUZZLERS,*

On Tuesday 21st April your Committee met to discuss activities over the coming months. This is a report of the latest news from The Den plus a comprehensive guide of our programme.

#### **Changes to the 3<sup>rd</sup> CB Leadership team:**

(A condensed version of the information release)

After 13 dedicated years as Group Scout Leader (GSL), Carol Tissington stood down from the role at the end of 2014. Carol took over the role of GSL back at the beginning of the new millennium after being away from the Group and Scouting for some time. Before her break away from Scouting Carol was Akela for the Cub Section and held many county and district positions. Since being GSL Carol has seen and initiated some major changes within the Group and has seen it grown over the years. She started up the new Beaver Colony, helped set up the Explorer Unit within the group, been involved in the purchasing of the new land next door to The Den and in the Rangers change over to become a new second Troop. This love of Scouting has increased the opportunities and experiences that the children of the area receive and gain out of this group and family called 3<sup>rd</sup> CB. Carol has received and deserves the honorary role of Vice President of the Group for her services given over the years.

There are consequential changes within the Group. Ian Johnson has stepped down as Scout Leader (a role he has had for over 40 years) and has been voted in by the Leader Team as the new GSL.

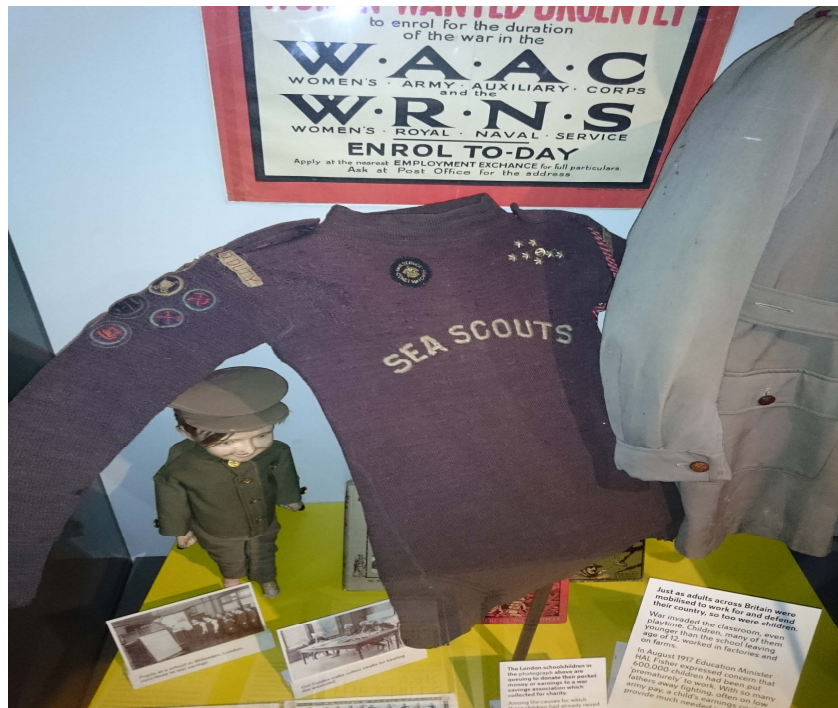
Asst. Scout Leader Jon Whiteley has taken over from Ian as No.1 in the role of Scout Leader for Renown Troop. These changes took place as of 1<sup>st</sup> January and we wish them all the very best of luck in their new roles. In November, you might remember, the SRS Solebay became the Solebay Troop of the 3<sup>rd</sup> CB, with Karen Cruiks as their Scout Leader. So the Group moves on a slightly different tack but still going in the same positive direction.

An annual event that I have now come to expect is receiving a Christmas Card to us all from Nick Martland, in Oz. The card was seasonably tasteful. The amount Nick spends on the card, (A\$25.00) shows the esteem that he values his membership of GUZZLERS! Many thanks Nick.

GUZZLERS membership now stands at 68 in 2014/15, all of those expected to continue their membership have paid up and the others that I have given up on have been removed from the mailing list.

There were only 3 takers to visit Imperial War Museum on 10<sup>th</sup> February. This time the WW1 exhibition was open for us and we spent a most interesting morning viewing the galleries. As the displays were laid out in chronological order the action was easy to follow. We ended our visit viewing the Lord Ashcroft collection of VC's and George Medals which was on display on the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor. In true GUZZLERS style we repaired to The Three Stags for a bite to eat and some beers before finding our way home. It really was well worth a visit; the highlight must have been sighting this WW1 Sea Scout jersey. Thanks to Paul Burdon for taking the snap.

The card with it noted that the badge you can see just below the neck on the right hand side is the 'Coast Watching' Badge. Scouts had to keep a sharp lookout for German spies and saboteurs landing by sea or a possible invasion. The Scout movement handbook instructed all Scouts 'Be Prepared.... to die for your country if necessary'. Eh! Were rough in them days!



The Pub Night on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March attracted 16 of our members who enjoyed a convivial get together at The Smack. This was an excellent turn out. Roy Salter won the furthest travelled prize and Andy Clapham celebrated his birthday. Some of the Groups Officers were on hand to join us after an activities meeting at The Den.

Onto our future social events:-

Fancy a Thames River Trip on PS Waverley?



We are gauging what interest there would be in joining PS Waverley for a GUZZLERS Thames Cruise. Send me an email back titled 'Waverley' before 31<sup>st</sup> May to indicate your interest. It is suggested that we go on Friday October 2nd. The arrangements would be to depart Southend Pier at 1000 and return 1730 going up the Thames through Tower Bridge

and back down the river. Might be a nice day out for you and the 'misses'. Cost is £37/head. To minimize administration tickets would have to be purchased individually via the website:- <http://www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk/plan-your-trip/the-thames/>

If it is taken up by enough people I will confirm and then when you have booked your ticket I will ask that you send me an email so that we know that you are going to be there.

#### **TRIP DESCRIPTION:**

Waverley is one of the world's greatest historic ships – the last sea-going paddle steamer in the world – magnificently restored with towering funnels, timber decks and gleaming varnish and brass. You can see and hear the mighty steam engines as they propel the paddles that take Waverley majestically through the sea. There is no finer cruise on the Thames than this! The spectacle of Tower Bridge, built in 1894, opening especially for you is something that you will always remember. You will also enjoy the informative and fascinating commentary that tells stories of the heritage of London's river. Along the way you pass through the Thames Flood Barrier, see the Millennium Dome, the historic waterfront at Greenwich, and the dramatic buildings at Canary Wharf.

#### **Recruiting & Den Day**

This is planned for Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July when GUZZLERS can display their boating talents as they did when they were 'irks' and at the same time welcome prospective new GUZZLERS to join in and use the boats and facilities at The Den. Hopefully 'flyers' will be distributed to entice new members to join up.

Meet at 1300

Boating activities 1330 – 1630 (HW 15.09 @ 5.9)

A BBQ will be held after sailing. A contribution of £5.00 per member will be asked for the food and drink but any newly recruited members having paid their subs will be exempt.

#### **Social Meeting 1**

Summer Pub Night Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Crooked Billet 1900 to take in the sun and the sights and have a beer with a seafood snack from 'Simply Seafood' the fish & chip bar under the flyover.

#### **Boat Trip 1:-**

A trip on 'Calypso' to Whitstable for the Oyster Festival departing from Bell Wharf on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July, returning on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2014. Regrettably Andy is full up already. Are there any other boats likely to go?

#### **Boat Trip 2-**

GUZZLERS sailing on RSP 'Merrilyn', Friday August 28<sup>th</sup> – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September. She is a Ocean 62 schooner which we are chartering. The boat will be in Hamble this time for a whole weeks sailing. Andy had a full crew when I last heard but anyone who would wish to go who has not already registered their interest could go on the 'Standby' list. Contact Andy Clapham email to [andy.clapham@yahoo.com](mailto:andy.clapham@yahoo.com) or call 07952 923251.

#### **Boat Trip 3**

GUZZLERS Thames Trip on PS Waverley Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015. Details above.

#### **AGM & Social Meeting**

I give formal notice of our 2015 AGM on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 2000, which will be held at The Den, as last year. This will be followed by a Pub Night at The Smack on completion. Please put the date in your diaries now and if there any items for inclusion in the agenda or revision of Aims do advise me before the end of September.

#### **Trafalgar Night**

To celebrate the 210<sup>th</sup> anniversary Neil Paxman is likely to organize a Trafalgar Night Dinner at 'The Swan, Lavenham, Suffolk date tba. Please go to <http://www.theswanatlavenham.co.uk/> for details of the hotel. If you would like to attend or have more details email Neil on [npaxman@btinternet.com](mailto:npaxman@btinternet.com). Last year the meal was a black tie affair and cost approximately £30 per head. The Swan a 15<sup>th</sup> century hotel in a fabulous location with a good reputation for food. The room will take a maximum of 20 people. Lavenham is only a 75 minute drive from

Leigh but those who wish to make a weekend of it there is plenty of accommodation in and around Lavenham.

**Days Out:-**

Visit to Chatham Maritime to be arranged in Autumn / Winter 2015 / 2016

**Other news:-**

The Groups website <http://www.3rdcb.org.uk> contains up to the minute news. Do take a look and view it. Our GUZZLERS details are included on the website and there is access to recent GUZZLETTERS. On the Website you will see references to The Big Project, it has a tab of its own, and we are told that donations so far have reached £25,000. £350,000 is the overall cost – some way to go as yet. Plans are being made.....

Rod Shiers emailed me just before Christmas to say that any of his old pals might be interested to read his book that comes out next month. **'All Aboard!' — Around Britain with Help from My Friends**, in which **Rod Shiers** (rhymes with 'pliers') recounts a circumnavigation of our mainland in a production 32ft Westerly Fulmar, aided and abetted by a relay crew numbering 20 or so family and friends, See the link below:

<http://us8.campaign-archive2.com/?u=a7d625fc525c0e2bdc6f62df0&id=aaf656d8bf&e=9c7358cdc6>

All that remains is for me, on behalf of your committee to wish you all well. We do hope you are able to attend some of the functions.

Regards,

*Stuart Clay*  
Secretary